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August 21, 2007

Commissioner Rob McDowell  
Federal Communications Commission  
Room 8-C302  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Rob,

It's been a while since Darlene and I have seen you and your delightful family. Maybe our paths will cross in the coming year. You may not know that we moved to Lansdowne (Leisure World) last March. We live on the 8<sup>th</sup> floor and I love it. Our condo looks down river and we have a gorgeous view from our balcony. Anyway, that's not why you are receiving this missive.

I'm writing to voice my strong opposition to the merger of XM and Sirius Satellite Radio. To have these two merge, being the only two satellite companies, would create an old fashioned monopoly that Teddy Roosevelt tried to quell in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. The merger would ultimately cost consumers more while giving them less choice and perhaps a lower quality of service.

With a merged service they are saying that they will offer some lower packaged prices to current subscribers. The company does admit that many current users would have to buy higher-priced premium packages to receive the same channels that they now enjoy. Who really knows how much more the consumer would have to spend to take advantage of the full range of channels offered by both companies??

XM and Sirius claim that the merger would enable their customers to have access to more channels by giving them access to both services. However, what these companies don't say is that their spectrums are actually limited, this results in both services being forced to shed some current channels in order to have a merged service. If they do manage to squeeze in some new channels, the quality of transmission will be compromised leaving consumers with poorer reception and a larger bill.

Hope that you will consider my concerns and help ensure that this merger proposal is rejected.

Sincerely,

*Chuck*  
Charles J. Weir

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